

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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USOECF FOR DAS O. H. GANLEY

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SESSION,US-ROMANIAN CULTURAL RELATIONS MID-TERM REVIEW,
BUCHAREST, FEB. 20-21, 1978

1. DELIGHTED TO RETURN TO BUCHAREST AND ROMANIA WHERE I
MADE SO MANY FRIENDS AND HAD SO MANY HAPPY EXPERIENCES
IN 1969-73.

2. THOSE WERE ACTIVE YEARS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
ROMANIA. THE FIRST GENERAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT IN 1960,
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THE INTER-ACADEMY AGREEMENT AND THE SPECIALIZED HEALTH
PROGRAM IN 1965 AND THE ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAM IN 1968
WERE FOLLOWED BY A TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENT IN 1971
AND THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NSF AND NCST
IN 1973.

3. ALL THOSE PROGRAMS WERE GIVEN NEW STATURE AND STIMULUS
WHEN THEY WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT OF
1974.

4. S&T COOPERATION HAS NOT ONLY BENEFITED THE RESEARCH EFFORTS WITHIN OUR COUNTRIES, IT HAS PROMOTED RELATIONS BETWEEN US. AGREEMENT TO COOPERATE IN SCIENCE WAS FOLLOWED IN TURN BY AGREEMENT TO WORK MORE CLOSELY IN MANY OTHER AREAS AS WELL.

5. WE VALUE HIGHLY THE RESULTS OF OUR S&T VENTURES TOGETHER AND THE CLOSER RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS GROWN UP BETWEEN US.

6. THERE ARE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS BOTH SIDES CAN POINT TO WITH CONSIDERABLE PRIDE. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THESE AS WELL AS WE RECOGNIZE THAT POINTS OF DIFFICULTY EXIST.

7. IN THE 1974 AGREEMENT SIGNED BY AMBASSADOR BARNES AND DEPUTY MINISTER GLIGA THERE IS A WISE PROVISION CALLING FOR A REVIEW OF THE WORK UNDER ITS TERMS, AND IT IS FOR THIS PURPOSE WE ARE HERE TODAY.

8. AFTER THE GREAT ACTIVITY OF THE 1960'S AND EARLY 1970'S, S&T COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND ROMANIA HAS IN THE LAST FEW YEARS DIMINISHED ALARMINGLY, AND IN MANY PROGRAMS HAS BEEN DORMANT SINCE THE LAST PROGRAM REVIEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TWO YEARS AGO.

9. LET ME SUMMARIZE THE EVALUATION WE HAVE MADE OF THE FOUR MAJOR S&T PROGRAMS:

-- ENERGY. THE US MENTIONED AGAIN TO PROF. URSU WHEN HE WAS IN THE US IN 1976 THAT WE WERE WILLING TO IMPLEMENT COOPERATION UNDER THE 1968 UNDERSTANDING BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO EXCHANGE FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IN NOVEMBER WE REVIEWED FOUR ROMANIAN PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER ENERGY RESEARCH COOPERATION.

-- HEALTH. ALTHOUGH 33 ROMANIANS CAME TO THE US BETWEEN 1967 AND 1975, IN 1976 THERE WAS ONLY ONE, AND THERE WAS NONE IN 1977.

-- TRANSPORTATION. OUR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS NOT HEARD FROM THE ROMANIAN PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR OVER A YEAR AND SERIOUSLY QUESTIONS WHETHER ROMANIA WANTS TO CONTINUE THE COOPERATION.

-- NSF. THE US SIDE PLACED A MORATORIUM ON ALL NEW PROJECTS IN 1977 UNTIL DIFFICULTIES CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF GENUINELY JOINT WORK CAN BE SOLVED.

10. THE PICTURE ISN'T 100 PERCENT BLACK, BUT ITS

DISTURBING ENOUGH FOR BOTH SIDES TO TRY TO DETERMINE THE CAUSES AND TO WORK FOR A SOLUTION.

11. OUR COLLEAGUES WILL DISCUSS THE PROGRAMS IN DETAIL TODAY AND TOMORROW BUT LET ME OUTLINE HERE WHAT MAY BE SOME PROBLEMS COMMON TO ALL OF THEM:

-- LACK OF INFORMATION LEADS TO LACK OF UNDERSTANDING;
INCOMPLETE PROPOSALS CAN'T BE PROPERLY EVALUATED;
IMPERFECT INSTRUCTIONS LEAD TO INADEQUATE PERFORMANCE;
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-- ALL PARTIES NEED TO AGREE ON WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THEM;

-- COMMUNICATION IS TOO SLOW: THIS PLAGUES ALL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BUT SPECIAL EFFORTS CAN SPEED IT;

-- WE MUST FIND A WAY TO ENGAGE AND RETAIN MORE ROMANIAN SCIENTISTS IN THE PROGRAMS THAT ARE GROWING DORMANT AND TO RE-AROUSE INTEREST OF THEIR US COLLEAGUES;

-- MORE ROMANIAN SCIENTISTS MUST TRAVEL TO THE US AND AMERICAN SCIENTISTS TO ROMANIA; AFTER THEY RETURN TO THEIR OWN COUNTRIES THERE NEEDS TO BE A MECHANISM TO ENCOURAGE THEIR FOLLOW-UP ON THE PLANS THAT THEY HAVE MADE, LITERATURE EXCHANGE, PUBLICATION OF RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

-- WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THE PROGRAM SO FAR PROVIDES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN USG AGENCIES AND ROMANIAN INSTITUTIONS: THIS NECESSARILY RESTRICTS THE US SIDE TO COOPERATION IN BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH, WHICH THE USG SUPPORTS, BUT NOT INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH, WHICH IS IN PRIVATE HANDS.

12. WHILE OUR COLLEAGUES DISCUSS WITH YOU THE EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE US AGENCIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, AMBASSADOR AGGREY AND I WILL CONSULT WITH MEMBERS OF THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT, EMPHASIZING BOTH OUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM AND OUR STRONG APPREHENSIONS OVER CURRENT TRENDS.

13. IF THE TASK WERE HOPELESS, WE WOULD NOT BE MEETING HERE TOGETHER; IF IT WERE SIMPLE, WE WOULD HAVE NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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CHALLENGE. VANCE

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